MAR 5 '80
INDIANA COLLECTION
Lakes

Northwestern Indiana
Regional Planning
Commission
8149 Kennedy Avenue
Highland, Indiana 46322

FOR REFERENCE ONLY

LAKE RESTORATION AND PROTECTION

PUBLIC MEETING
March 25, 1980
7:00 PM
Merrillville
Holiday Inn
Rt. 30 & I-65

PROBLEM

Because they are in advanced stages of eutrophication, seven public lakes within Lake and Porter Counties have been classified as poor quality lakes by the Indiana State Board of Health. Eutrophication, or the aging of a lake, if allowed to occur naturally is a very slow process measured in hundreds or thousands of years. In natural eutrophication, the aging process leads to a gradual filling in of a lake basin.

However, the eutrophication we are witnessing today is rapid and harmful. It results from the activities of modern society and occurs when wastes from sewage, feedlots, agriculture runoff, sediments, etc. are allowed to enter a lake uncontrolled. Nutrients from the waste materials promote the growth of algae and weeds and as this plant material dies, it is decomposed by bacteria. In the decomposition process, bacteria use oxygen and soon the oxygen supply is reduced or depleted. Low oxygen concentrations result in the loss of desirable fish, unpleasant odors, and unsuitable conditions for recreation or other desirable uses.

The seven lakes in advanced stages of eutrophication are Lake George, Lake Dalecarlia, George Lake, Wolf Lake, Cedar Lake, Loomis Lake, and Mink Lake. Flint Lake and Clear Lake were ranked as good quality lakes by the Indiana State Board of Health. Other public lakes in Lake and Porter Counties lie somewhere between these two extremes.

PROGRAM

6:45-7:00	Registration Refreshments
7:00-7:15	Introduction Mark Reshkin, Professor, Indiana University Northwest
7:15-7:30	Cultural Eutrophication Richard Whitman, Assistant Professor, Indiana University Northwest
7:30-8:00	Lake Classification Robert Mefford, Administrator Porter County Health Department
8:00-8:30	Lake Protection and Restoration Ewa Shannon, Environmental Management Planner, NIRPC
8:30-9:00	Case Study: Cedar Lake John Hunger, Professor Indiana University Northwest William Jones, Cedar Lake Project Manager, Indiana University/Bloomington
9:00	Discussion

Preparation of this brochure is financed in part through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency under Public Law 92-500, Section 208, and its amendments.

WHAT CAN WE DO ?

What we can do to protect or restore our lakes is the topic of discussion at a public meeting to be held at the Merrillville Holiday Inn March 25, 1980, 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to inform citizens of the conditions of our lakes and to explore the options and resources available for lake protection and restoration.

The factors associated with the pollution and restoration of lakes are sometimes complex and involve many aspects of community planning and cooperation. Nevertheless, with proper planning and commitment solutions can be found.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend and participate in the discussions. You will have an opportunity to ask questions, express your concerns, and make suggestions at the meeting. Please complete the attached registration form and return it by March 14, 1980.

For further information on the meeting you may call:

Elayne K. Haller
Public Participation
Coordinator
923-1060

REGISTRATION FORM

Please accept my registration for the public meeting on Lake Protection and Restoration on March 25, 1980, 7:00 p.m. at the Merrillville Holiday Inn.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Mail by March 14 to:

Ms. Elayne K. Haller
Public Participation Coordinator
NIRPC
8149 Kennedy Avenue
Highland, Indiana 46322

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission

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Highland, Indiana 46322

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